

Griffin, Mrs. Carl A. Woodruff, Mrs. C. W. Mason, Dr. Delia Dixon Carroll, Mrs. Charles McKimmon, and Miss May V. Johnson. The conference came to the conclusion that the best medium through which to work was the American Red Cross. The ambition of those present did not aspire higher than to the organization of an auxiliary; had they foreseen the great work upon which they were about to embark they would probably have been appalled at the greatness of the task to which they were about to dedicate their services.

The conference determined to issue a public invitation to "all persons [in Raleigh] interested in Red Cross work or the welfare of American soldiers in the event of war" to attend a meeting to effect an organization. In response to this call, twenty-five women met at the Yarborough Hotel, August 22, 1916, and organized as the Raleigh Auxiliary with Mrs. Grimes as chairman, Mrs. Shore as vice-chairman, and Miss Johnson as secretary-treasurer. These officials served until the re-organization of the Auxiliary as a chapter.

WORK AS AN AUXILIARY

Immediately upon effecting an organization the Auxiliary opened a workroom in Christ Church Parish House. There every Wednesday morning from September, 1916, to February, 1917, this small band of workers labored patiently learning to make many difficult dressings and forming a nucleus for the greater work that was to come. When it became apparent that the United States would enter the war the Auxiliary promptly took steps to expand and increase its activities. With this purpose in view Mrs. Grimes, in coöperation with Mrs. Clarence A. Johnson, president of the Raleigh Woman's Club, called a mass meeting of women at the Woman's Club, February 8, 1917, which was largely attended. After explaining the purpose of the meeting and the plans of the Auxiliary, Mrs. Grimes presented Miss Mary Wyche, an enrolled Red Cross Nurse, who spoke of the organization of the Red Cross and its work in North Carolina, and explained that all members of the Red Cross were eligible for First Aid classes.

This meeting stimulated considerable interest in Red Cross work. Fifty new members were enrolled; committees were appointed to organize circles and teach their members how to do Red Cross work and Mrs. W. A. Hoke, Mrs. J. J. King, Mrs. Albert Anderson, Mrs. T. P. Harrison, Miss Bessie Hinton, and Miss Katherine Boylan volunteered for this service.